See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only **AUG** 6 1985

date entered

5 1985

Type all entries	s—complete applicable s	ections		
1. Nam	1 e	·		
historic MacGi	regor/Tallman House			
and/or common	Cooper House			
2. Loca				
street & number	407 Monmouth	Road]	NA_ not for publication
city, town West	t Long Branch	vicinity of		
state New 3	Jersey code	county	Monmouth	code 025
3. Clas	sification			
Category district _X building(s) structure site object	Ownership public _X_ private both Public Acquisition in process being considered NA	Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park X private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Proper			,
			`	
	Gardner C. Klein			
street & number	,			· ·
	est Long Branch	vicinity of	31016	New Jersey
5. Loca	ation of Lega	al Descripti	on	
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc. Hall	of Records, Monmou	th County	
street & number	Main Street			
city, town Free	ehold		state	New Jersey 08625
	resentation	in Existing	Surveys	
	<u> </u>			x
title Monmouth	h County Survey (#13	has this pro	operty been determined el	igible? yesX no
date March	, 1981		federal _X stat	te county local
depository for su	urvey records Office	of New Jersey Heri	tage	
city, town	CN 402, Trenton		state	New Jersey

7. Description

x excellent deteriorated unaltered woriginal good ruins altered moved moved unexposed	
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The MacGregor/Tallman House consists of a low two-story original wing probably dating from the late 18th century and the $2\frac{1}{2}$ -story main block in Greek Revival style, probably added about 1830.

The house is supported by a fieldstone foundation with slate veneer and is finished with wood shingles and clapboard siding. There are two sets of twin end-wall chimneys.

James McCabe, who prepared the county survey form on the house, gave this description:

The wing is the earliest section of this house, possibly dating from 1737. It is two stories and square in plan; the first floor is enveloped by an The roof of this section has simple cornices with small enclosed porch. eaves. Windows are small and have 6/6 sash. The doors are located in the The main block of the house, with a three bay side-hall plan, central bay. has much larger proportions. The roof has gable returns and a full entablature with a denticulated frieze. A round headed gable window is flanked by smaller quarter-round lights. The main entry is recessed in a Greek Revival enframement with broad transom, sidelights, and wood tracery. The door retains its Carpenter Company box lock and hardware. French doors open onto a Victorian piazza on the east wall. (a late 19th century addition).

The house faces south on a site of about 4 acres. The east end is parallel to Monmouth Road and set back about 125 feet. There is a full cellar only under the early wing, with a crawl space beneath the Greek Revival section. Original, wide-board pine flooring is preserved throughout the house.

In the south room of the early section is an 8-foot fireplace and bakeoven. This fireplace still is in use but the bakeoven has been sealed off. This now is the dining room. A small heating fireplace still is in use in the adjoining north room, now used as the kitchen.

In the main Greek Revival wing are four fireplaces with ornate period mantles, serving front and back parlors and the north and south bedrooms. None now are in use, and the first floor fireplaces were equipped with coal grates some time in the past.

A 10-foot hall extends from front to rear of the first floor in this large portion of the house, the front door opening onto a brick walk and the rear onto a small covered porch. In this part of the house, first floor ceilings are 12 feet and those on the second floor are 10 feet.

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Throughout the first floor in the large section, windows and doorways are flanked by fluted columns ending in capitals below an overhanging cornice. Windows are 6/6. The fireplaces in both parlors are trimmed with tapering columns, at either side, ending in volutes. The breast supporting the mantle shelf is trimmed with a raised center panel.

Between the front and back parlors are two facing 5-by-5-foot rooms that now provide a lavatory and bar. These appear to be original to the house but their initial use is not known. A broad passageway between these two rooms connects the two parlors and at one time had a large double door that could be used to separate them.

A staircase to the second floor has delicately turned bannisters on open string construction with ornate applied scrollwork.

In the early wing, woodwork is of severely plain farmhouse style and even the second floor of the Greek Revival wing has woodwork considerably simpler than on the floor below.

A number of architectural changes were made at later and undetermined dates.

On the second floor of the early wing, a small bedroom was converted to a bathroom. The same treatment was used in the large wing, where a small bedroom was converted to provide a connecting bath and closets for adjoining bedrooms on the north and south. (See Floor plans)

The second floor in the Greek Revival section is $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet higher than that in the early wing and the parallel upper halls are connected by three steps at the rear of the house.

Carpenter Company, or Carpenter-type door locks are found throughout the house, apparently having been substituted for the original hardware in the early wing at the time the Greek Revival section was built.

A large attic over the main section of the house has been finished off as a recreation room.

From the attic of the early section can be seen wood shingles originally used on the roof and now covered with modern asphalt shingles.

Several other buildings on the property are of modern vintage and are not part of this nomination.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 X 1700–1799 X 1800–1899 1900–	archeology-historic	community planning conservation economics education engineering X exploration/settlement	literature military music philosophy politics/government	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1775–1830	Builder/Architect	Unclear	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

This handsome residence is one of the best surviving Greek Revival houses in Monmouth County and its early owners played key roles in the development of their community.

The early wing of the house, dating from the last quarter of the 18th century, probably was built by William Brindley (Brinley) or his son, John. The Brinley family for three generations during the 1700s operated saw and grist mills on Whale Pond Brook a half mile south of the house. The fieldstone foundation under the old section may once have supported a still earlier house, for a 1737 date stone was found when a sealed fireplace in the present kitchen was reopened.

In 1791, William Brinley conveyed one acre along the road about 800 feet north of Whale Pond Brook to the Trustees of the Methodist Church for a church and burying ground "free for all ministers of the gospel."*

Alexander MacGregor is said to have come to America from Scotland late in the 18th century and was operating an inn and stagecoach stop in 1804 at what then was called Branchburg (now West Long Branch).** He acquired the property in this nomination in 1806 from John Brinley and bought additional adjoining land from John's brother, Silvester Brinley, six years later.

MacGregor was a popular and public-spirited citizen. In 1807 he donated land for a schoolhouse and in 1809 he provided the site on which the Old First Methodist Church now stands. He helped bring steamboat service to Long Branch and was an active member of the Masons.***

- * The Early History of West Long Branch, pg. 32.
- ** Borough of West Long Branch, N.J. 1908-1968, pg. 7
- *** Ellis: History of Monmouth County (1885), pg. 476.

9. Major Bibliographical References

GPO 894-785

(See continuation page 9-1)

10. Geographica	al Data		
Acreage of nominated property 4:1 Quadrangle name Long Branch UT M References			Quadrangle scale 1:24000
A 1 8 5 83 3 8 0 4 4 4 Zone Easting Northi	5 ₁ 9 2 ₁ 2 ₁ 0 ng	B Zone E	Easting Northing
C		D	
record 1984. There have been residence of a large farm. plot retains its character a	en many bound Its centra as a handsom	dary changes sinc 1 location on the e rural home.	2-55, West Long Branch assessment this building was initially a present beautifully landscaped onto boundaries $\mathcal{O}\mathcal{A}$
List all states and counties for p state	code	county	nty boundaries / / / / / code
11. Form Prepai	code	county	code
organization street & number 416 The Terra		date	November 1984 phone (201) 449-2259
city or town Sea Girt		state	e N.J.
12. State Histor	ic Pres	ervation O	fficer Certification
The evaluated significance of this pro	perty within the	state is:	
national	state	_X local	
665), I hereby nominate this property according to the criteria and procedu Deputy	for inclusion in t res set forth by	the National Register an	
State Historic Preservation Officer significant State Historic Preservation Officer State		& Forestry	date 7/9/16
For NPS use only I hereby certify that this property United States of the states of t		me National Register intered in the lational Register	date 9-5-85
Keeper of the National Register		20101121 1100-	
Attest:	<u></u>	`	date
Chief of Registration			

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William Tallman, who acquired the property from MacGregor in 1834, was born in Monmouth County but had established a prosperous grocery business in New York City. He is said to have given up his New York business about 1837 and at about the same time, MacGregor is believed to have returned to Scotland.*

From 1874 until 1946, the house was owned by members of the Cooper family and was known locally as "the Cooper House." Thomas W. Cooper, first of the family to own the property, played an active role in formation of the Borough of West Long Branch in 1908 and served as first president of the Borough Council.**

The MacGregor/Tallman house is on land that was patented to Sarah Reape, widow of William Reape of Newport, R.I., who died about 1670, five years after being listed as one of the original Monmouth patentees.

William Reape never came to New Jersey but his widow did, and she proved to be an active land speculator and perhaps the largest land holder in the county, with patents covering 3,500 acres.

In 1712, Sarah Reape executed a deed of gift to her grandson, William Brindley, for 184 acres on the north side of Whale Pond Brook, then in Shrewsbury Township.*** And when she died Feb. 8, 1716, without ever remarrying, she willed "to my grandson William Brindley all my land that lyeth at Whale Pond Brook..."**** According to a 1690 patent, that land was bounded on the south by the brook, which is located about one half mile south of the MacGregor/Tallman House. It is not clear whether the bequest duplicated the deed of gift.

In 1729, Brindley obtained a quit claim from Gavin Drummond for another tract on the south side of Whale Pond Brook, a condition of the transaction being that he keep a mill on the property.**** And for three generations Brinley's operated saw and grist mills on the brook before being sold by Brinley's grandson, also named William, in 1790 to Britton Corlies.***** When he died in 1796, the miller directed that his sons, John and Silvester, share all his remaining real estate.*****

- * Stillwell: Historical & Genealogical Miscellany, Vol.V.pg.38
- ** The Early History of West Long Branch, N.J. pg. 3
- *** Monmouth deed book H, pg. 6b.
- **** The Brinley Grist Mill (Zimmerer/1973)

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Monmouth deed book G, pg. 158

Reference in deed book B2, pg. 123.

N.J. Archives wills: John Brinley, July 12, 1775 and William Brinley,

March 12, 1796.

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In 1806, about a decade after William Brinley's death, his remaining Whale Pond Brook properties that had been bequeathed to his sons John and Silvester were partitioned into six tracts by the Monmouth County Orphans Court, with 1, 4 and 5 going to John and 2,3 and 6 to Silvester.* (see plot plan)

During all of the 18th century and into the 19th, the property was part of Shrewsbury Township. The small portion of the house built during the Brinley ownership was located close to the road on lots 4 and 5 owned by John Brinley.

On Aug. 30, 1806** John Brinley sold to Alexander MacGregor lots 4 and 5 consisting of $44\frac{1}{2}$ acres, along with lot 1 south of the brook on the east side of the road (15.75 acres). Six years later, his brother Silvester sold MacGregor lot 3, about 24 acres, on the west side of the road adjoining lots 4 and 5.***

MacGregor may have come from Porto Bello, Scotland, where in 1835 a Hugh MacGregor held a mortgage on some Alexander MacGregor's Monmouth County property.****

MacGregor apparently was not married but was the father of a "natural" daughter, Deborah, who in 1814 was married to John Hopper.**** The following year, MacGregor sold his store business to Hopper and soon after, and for nearly half a century, the community was called Hoppertown.

MacGregor continued to speculate in real estate, perhaps moving into the old house on the property bought from John Brinley. A few years later he opened another store a short distance away in Long Branch which he continued to operate until 1829.

In 1968 while working on the history of West Long Branch, the late Mrs. Nina Klein found an old letter noting that Alexander MacGregor was building a new home on what now is Monmouth Road.

* Monmouth County Orphans Court minutes, book C.

** Monmouth deed book Q, pg. 262

*** Monmouth deed book V, pg. 373

**** Monmouth mortgages, book I, pg. 309

***** Stillwell: Historical & Genealogical Miscellany, Vol. III, pg. 236

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"The letter said he had sent to England for all the hardware and woodworking. Since English coin-locks are on all doors, it sounds reasonable that this is the residence long occupied by the Thomas Cooper family, and now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Klein."*

Efforts to locate the letter, and learn if it was dated, were unsuccessful. Nearly all of the locks on the MacGregor/Tallman house are Carpenter or Carpenter-type from England, made extensively between 1820 and 1840.**

However, there is a suggestion that William Tallman may have been the builder of the Greek Revival addition. Tallman purchased the house in 1834, acquiring 58 acres of land and buildings for \$2,000.***

Stillwell asserts in Vol. V, pg. 38 that William Tallman "received a bequest in the will of James Tallman of Pumpkin Point (possibly an uncle), and built a large house on the road to Oceanville (the neighboring community to the south now called Oakhurst)." James Tallman had died in 1827. The road past the MacGregor/Tallman house connects West Long Branch and Oakhurst.

Since the architectural features of Greek Revival wing suggest a construction date around 1830, either MacGregor or Tallman could have been the builder.

- * Borough of West Long Branch, N.J., pg. 7
- ** Schiffer: Early Pennsylvania Hardware (1966), pg. 20
- *** Monmouth County deed book F3, pag. 7

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Line of Title

1690	Sarah Reape, patentee
1712	William Brindley
c1740	John Brindley, bequest
1775	William Brindley, bequest
1796	John Brinley, bequest
	1806, partition
1806	Alexander MacGregor
1834	William Tallman, Jr.
1874	Thomas W. Cooper
1914	Mary L. Cooper
1919	Thomas Cooper Jr.
1927	Maybelle Cooper
1945	Francis D. Wilson
1947	Hanmer W. Webb-Peploe
1954	Gardner C. Klein

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Major Bibliographical References

Monmouth County Deeds & Mortgages, Hall of Records, Freehold, N.J.

New Jersey Archives, Wills 1700-1800

The Brinley Grist Mill, Zimmerer/1973

Monmouth County Surrogates Records, Hall of Records, Freehold, N.J.

History of Monmouth County, Ellis/1885

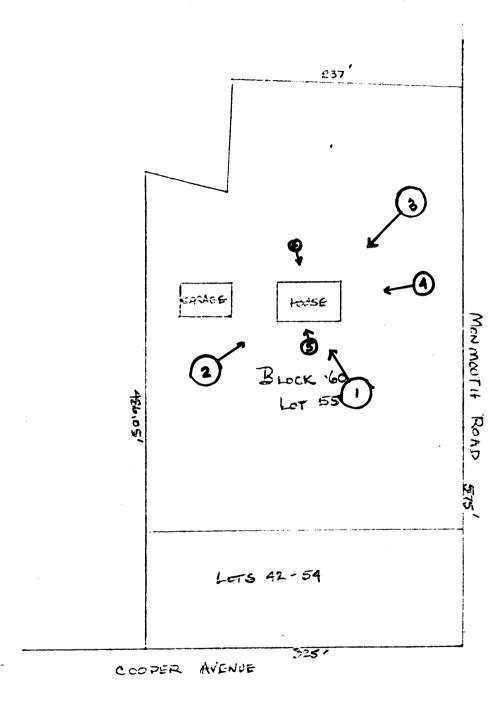
Early Pennsylvania Hardware, Schiffer/1966

Borough of West Long Branch, Klein/1968

The Early History of West Long Branch, Maps and Van Benthuysen/1977

Entertaining a Nation, Sweetland & Sugarman, WPA 1940

Historical & Genealogical Miscellany, Stillwell, Vols. III & V.



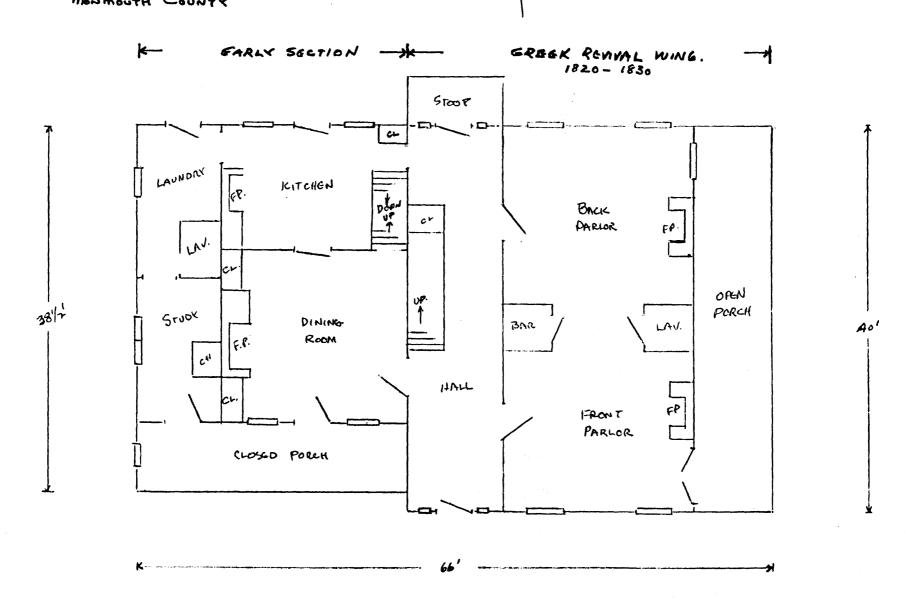
1 = 100' TAX MAR TATA MAC GREGOR / TALLMAN
HOUSE
WEST LONG BRANCH, N.J.
MONMOUTH COUNTY

MACGREGOR/TALLMAN HOUSE
WEST LONG BRANCH, N.J.
MONMOUTH COUNTY

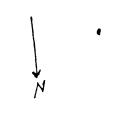
FIRST FLOOR.

1" = 10"

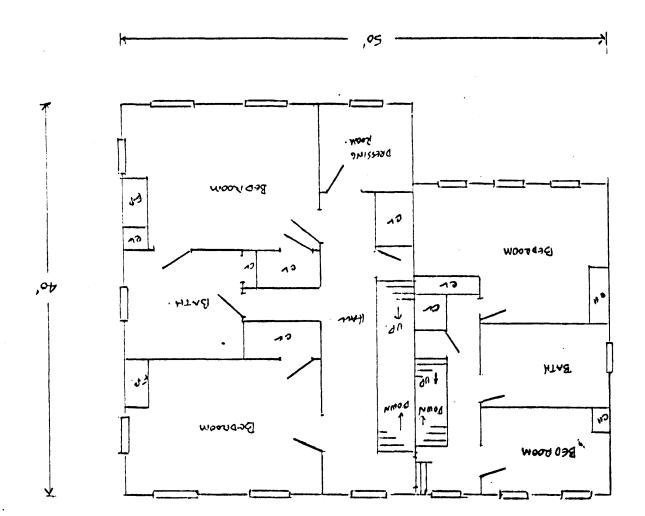
SCALE

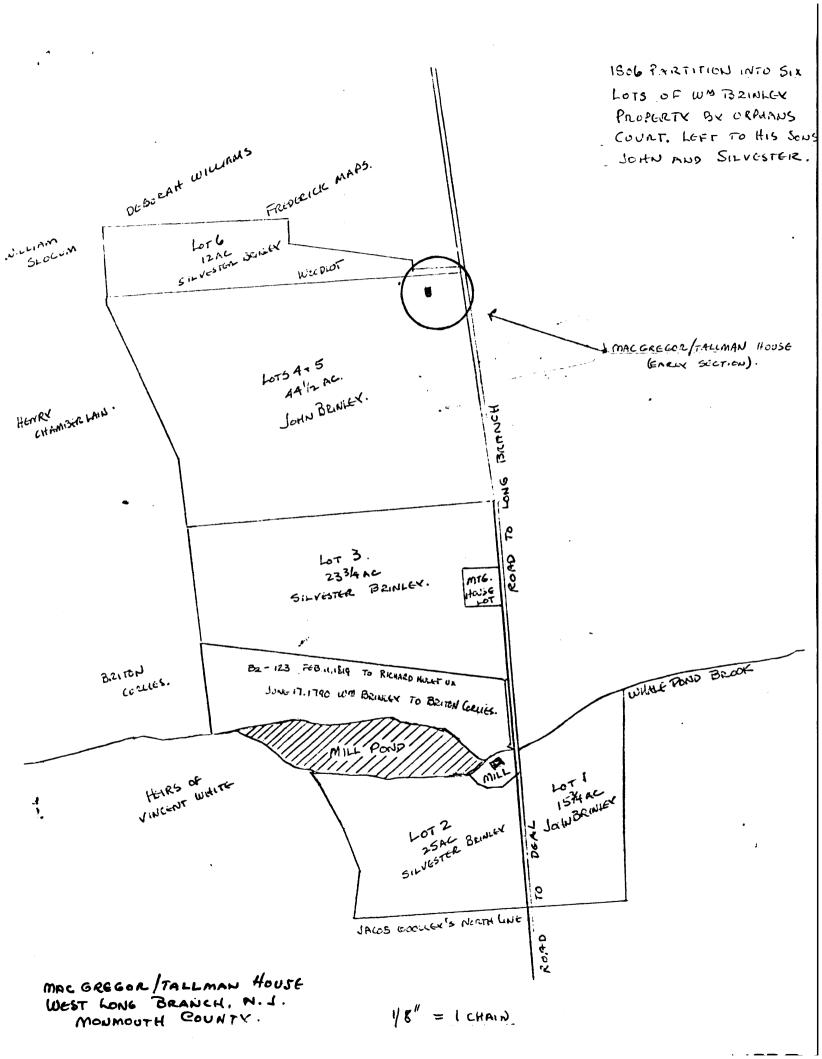


2007) CD0075



MRC GREGOR / TALLMAN HOUSE
WEST LOUG BRANCH, N.J.
e1750/1820.
MOUMOUTH COUNTY







MAC GREGER/TALLMAN Wolverton-Atlas of "onmouth County, N.J. 1889
WEST LONG BRANCH
MONNOCITE COUNTY, N.J.